

Amendment to the Claims:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. – 9. (Cancelled)

10. (Currently Amended) A method for separating-out of supplied items for the batching of these items in weight-determined groups, said batching method comprising:

a) performing a weight-determination of each item;

b) batching the items at a batch location in accordance with their weight and the weight of the items already placed at the batch location, or batching the items at the batch location as a combination of items available for [[the]] selection; and

c) transporting the items to respective receiving positions based upon weight-determined groups to achieve a predefined total weight at each receiving position,

wherein the transporting is performed by transport equipment which includes an associated control unit,

wherein the control unit arranges the allocation of the individual items to respective receiving positions of items from the different items at the batch location, and performs [[the]] selective control of the transport equipment, and

wherein the transport equipment includes at least two robots, each of which has a gripping element for [[the]] selective gripping of an item and direct transport of the item from a batch location to a selected receiving position.

11. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 10, wherein, in addition to a weight-determination, an item type-determination is performed, and the batching at a batch location and transporting to a receiving position also includes selective batching or positioning of arriving items into type-determined groups.

12. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 10, wherein the weight of an item or a weight-group determination of the items is performed by a weighing arrangement integrated with the gripping element for the weighing of the gripped and lifted items from the batch location.

13. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 10, wherein the weight determination of the items is performed by a "negative weighting" in which the items are supplied to a static weighing device at a supply position and the item weight is determined as a function of a weight reduction which takes place by the removal of the individual item from the supply position.

14. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 11, wherein the transport equipment further employs vision equipment to perform the type-determination, at least one of the weight-determination and a position-determination of the items.

15. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 10, wherein the robot also performs a periodic cleaning procedure in an area of operation of the robot by gripping of a supply hose for water or other cleaning agent and spraying on relevant portions of the area of operation.

16. (Currently Amended). An apparatus for separating-out of supplied items for the batching of these items into weight-determined groups, by:

a) performing a weight-determination of each item;  
b) batching the items at a batch location in accordance with their weight and the weight of the items already placed at the batch location, or batching the items at the batch location as a combination of items available for the selection; and

c) transporting the items to respective receiving positions based upon weight-determined groups to achieve a predefined total weight at each receiving position,

said apparatus comprising:

- means for carrying out weight-determination of supplied items; and
- means for effecting a selective batching of the items in weight-determined groups which includes transport equipment,

wherein said transport equipment has an associated control means for arranging unit ~~which arranges~~ the allocation of the individual items to respective receiving positions of items from the different items at the batch location, and ~~performs the~~ for performing a selective control of the transport equipment,

wherein its transport equipment includes a transfer arrangement including at least two robots in which each robot has a gripping means element for ~~[[the]]~~ selective gripping of an item and direct transport of the item from a batch location to a selected receiving position.

17. (Currently Amended) The apparatus according to claim 16, wherein said apparatus further comprises:

- means for performing a type-determination of the arriving items and
- means for effecting a selective batching of the items in weight-determined and type-determined groups.

18. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 16, wherein the weight of an item or a weight-group determination of the items is performed by a weighing arrangement integrated with the gripping element for the weighing of the gripped and lifted items from a supply location or the batch location.

19. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 16, wherein the means for carrying out a weight-determination includes a static weighing device at a supply position for the items such that the successive receipt of one or more items for accumulated weighing-in of the items enables an operative weight-determination of a gripped and lifted-free item to be determined by the determination of the weight removed from the supply position by a gripping element.

20. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 16, wherein, in connection with a supply area for the items, a stop station is provided for the build-up of items in a closely-packed manner at the supply area, and wherein from the supply area a robot gripping element picks up items by a gripping activation in order to change the position of an item.

Claim 21-37 (Cancelled).